

***Lomatium rollinsii* Math. & Const.**

Rollin's desert-parsley  
Apiaceae (Parsley Family)

**Status:** State Threatened

**Rank:** G3S2

**General Description:** Taprooted perennial that stands from 10-28 inches tall and is covered with short crisp hairs; leaves, both basal and cauline, are from 2-6 inches long and have a petiole almost as long as the blade; blades pinnately dissected into linear segments generally about  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch long; inflorescences consist of 4-8 rays,  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 inches long, with small yellow flowers on pedicels from  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{2}{3}$  inch long; fruits elliptic,  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch long with well developed wings about half as wide as the body.

**Identification Tips:** The taxon is superficially similar to *Lomatium ambiguum*, but differs in being puberulent rather than glabrous, having pinnately instead of ternate-pinnately divided leaves, and ovate-oblong rather than oblong fruit.

**Phenology:** Flowering occurs predominantly from mid-March to mid-May.

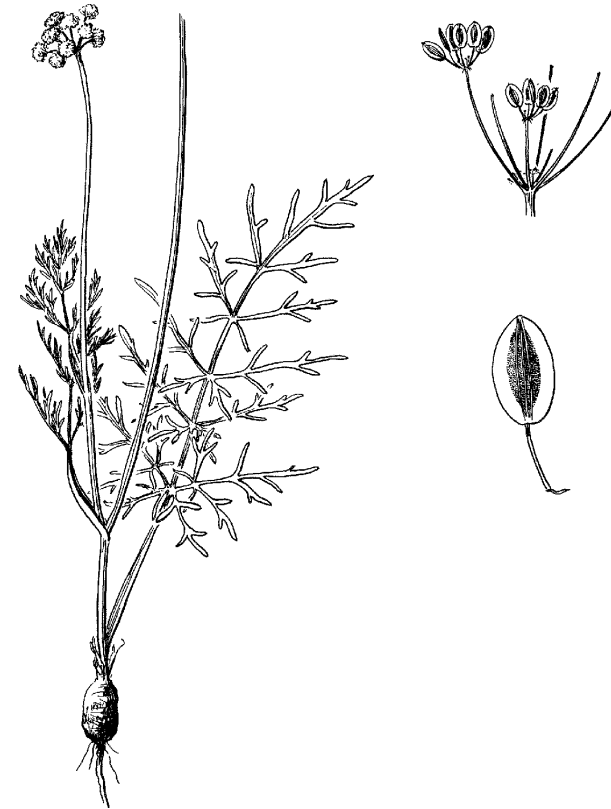
**Range:** Regional endemic; canyons of the Snake and Salmon Rivers, northeast Oregon, western Idaho, and extreme southeast WA. In WA, currently only known from Asotin County in the Blue Mountains and Columbia Basin physiographic provinces.

**Habitat:** *Lomatium rollinsii* occurs in canyon grasslands from an elevation of 900 to 4400 feet. Slopes vary from being very steep to relatively gentle. Soils range from gravelly and rocky to deeper loamy conditions. Associated species generally include Idaho fescue (*Festuca idahoensis*), bluebunch wheatgrass (*Agropyron spicatum*), and Sandberg's bluegrass (*Poa sandbergii*). Other species which may be present include big sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*), large-fruited lomatium (*Lomatium macrocarpum*), ballhead waterleaf (*Hydrophyllum capitatum*), prickly-pear cactus (*Opuntia* sp.), Hood's phlox (*Phlox hoodii*), and Cusick's penstemon (*Penstemon cusickii*).

**Ecology:** *Lomatium rollinsii* occurs in several grassland and shrubland plant community associations, including a variety of successional stages. Schlessman (1984) outlines many adaptations of tuberous lomatiums to an early, short, windy growing

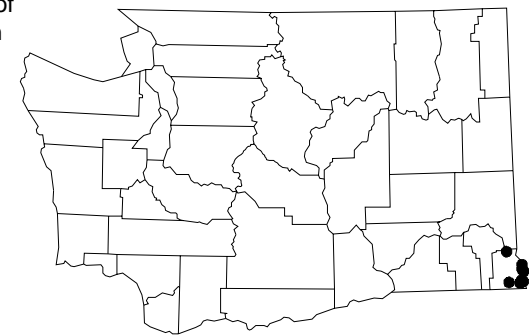
***Lomatium rollinsii***

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Known distribution of  
*Lomatium rollinsii* in  
Washington



● Current (1980+)  
○ Historic (older than 1980)

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**Ecology** (continued): season followed by summer drought. Schlessman (1984) also states that the species can be self-pollinated, but it also outcrosses.

**State Status Comments:** The species has a limited distribution in WA and a generally small population size.

**Inventory Needs:** No systematic inventory for this species has occurred in southeastern WA.

**Threats and Management Concerns:** Grazing and agricultural development are the main threats to the taxon.

**References:**

Hitchcock, C. L., A. Cronquist, M. Ownbey, and J.W. Thompson. 1961. *Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest, Part 3: Saxifragaceae to Ericaceae*. University of Washington Press, Seattle. 614 pp.

Schlessman, M.A. 1984. Systematics of tuberous lomatiums (Umbelliferae). Systematic Botany Monographs 4:1-55.